

ATTACHMENT A

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A method for designing an elliptical structure which is symmetrical about the major axis and the minor axis thereof, and has an outline of an approximate elliptic curve, comprising the steps of:

a) establishing a first fixed point outside the elliptical structure; from the first fixed point, drawing a straight line segment to the farthest end point of the minor axis through the intersecting point of the major axis and the minor axis; and drawing a first circular segment from said farthest end point of the minor axis with the use of the first fixed point as the center and the first straight line segment having the same length as that of said straight line segment as the radius, through an arbitrary angle set at said first fixed point;

b) establishing a second fixed point on said first straight line segment; and drawing a second circular segment following said first circular segment with the use of the second fixed point as the center and the second straight line segment as the radius, through an arbitrary angle set at said second fixed point;

c) establishing a third fixed point on said second straight line segment; and drawing a third circular segment following said second circular segment with the use of the third fixed point as the center and the third straight line segment as the radius, through an arbitrary angle set at said third fixed point;

d) repeating this step as required;

e) finally drawing an n th circular segment following $(n - 1)$ th circular segment and ranging from the finish end of the $(n - 1)$ th circular segment to the major axis with the use of the intersecting point of $(n - 1)$ th straight line segment and the major axis as the center, and a part of the $(n - 1)$ th straight line segment as the radius; and

f) using these steps to draw a part of the outline in each of the other quadrants for drawing the entire outline.

2. (Original) A method for designing an elliptical structure which is symmetrical about the major axis and the minor axis thereof, and has an outline of an approximate elliptic curve, comprising the steps of:

a) establishing a first fixed point outside the elliptical structure; from the first fixed point, drawing a first straight line segment to the farthest end point of the minor axis through the intersecting point of the major axis and the minor axis; and drawing a first circular segment from said farthest end point of the minor axis with the use of the first fixed point as the center and the first straight line segment as the radius, through an arbitrary angle set at said first fixed point;

b) establishing a second fixed point on said first straight line segment; and drawing a second circular segment following said first circular segment with the use of the second fixed point as the center and the second straight line segment as the radius, through an arbitrary angle set at said second fixed point;

c) finally drawing a third circular segment following the second circular segment and ranging from the end of the second circular segment to the major axis with the use of the intersecting point of the second straight line segment and the major axis as the center, and a part of the second straight line segment as the radius; and

d) using these steps to draw a part of the outline in each of the other quadrants for drawing the entire outline.

3. (Currently Amended) An elliptical structure which has an outline of an approximate elliptic curve, being constructed using building materials designed by the method as claimed in ~~either of the claim 1 and claim 2.~~

4. (New) An elliptical structure which has an outline of an approximate elliptic curve, being constructed using building materials designed by the method as claimed in claim 2.